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(57) Abstract

A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof, then the said polypeptide is one of various specified entities, including the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof. The HSA-like portion may have additional N-terminal residues, such as secretion leader sequences (signal sequences). The C-terminal portion is preferably the 585-1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin. The N-terminal and C-terminal portions may be cleavable to yield the isolated C-terminal portion, with the N-terminal portion having served to facilitate secretion from the host.

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Fusion proteins containing N-terminal fragments of human serum albumin

The present invention relates to fusion polypeptides where two individual polypeptides or parts thereof are fused to form a single amino acid chain. Such fusion may arise from the expression of a single continuous coding sequence formed by recombinant DNA techniques.

Fusion polypeptides are known, for example those where a polypeptide which is the ultimately desired product of the process is expressed with an N-terminal "leader sequence" which encourages or allows secretion of the polypeptide from the cell. An example is disclosed in EP-A-116 201 (Chiron).

Human serum albumin (HSA) is a known protein found in the blood. EP-A-147 198 (Delta Biotechnology) discloses its expression in a transformed host, in this case yeast. Our earlier application EP-A-322 094 discloses N-terminal fragments of HSA, namely those consisting of residues 1-n where n is 369 to 419, which have therapeutic utility. The application also mentions the possibility of fusing the C-terminal residue of such molecules to other, unnamed, polypeptides.

One aspect of the present invention provides a fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said Nterminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 then the said to 419 or a variant thereof polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor, or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor, or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) the 278-578 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-1-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

The N-terminal portion of HSA is preferably the said 1-n portion, the 1-177 portion (up to and including the cysteine), the 1-200 portion (up to but excluding the cysteine) or a portion intermediate 1-177 and 1-200.

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The term "human serum albumin" (HSA) is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) known or yet-to-be-discovered polymorphic forms of HSA. For example, albumin Naskapi has Lys-372 in place of Glu-372 and pro-albumin Christchurch has an altered pro-sequence. The term "variants" is intended to include (but not necessarily to be restricted to) minor artificial variations in sequence (such as molecules lacking one or a few residues, having conservative substitutions or minor insertions of residues, or having minor variations of amino acid structure). Thus polypeptides which have 80%, preferably 85%, 90%, 95% or 99%, homology with HSA are deemed to be "variants". It is also preferred for such variants to be physiologically equivalent to HSA; that is say, variants preferably share least at pharmacological utility with HSA. Furthermore, any putative variant which is to be used pharmacologically should be non-immunogenic in the animal (especially human) being treated.

Conservative substitutions are those where one or more amino acids are substituted for others having similar properties such that one skilled in the art of polypeptide chemistry would expect at least the secondary structure, and preferably the tertiary structure, of the polypeptide to be substantially unchanged. For example, typical such

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substitutions include asparagine for glutamine, serine for asparagine and arginine for lysine. Variants may alternatively, or as well, lack up to ten (preferably only one or two) intermediate amino acid residues (ie not at the termini of the said N-terminal portion of HSA) in comparison with the corresponding portion of natural HSA; preferably any such omissions occur in the 100 to 369 portion of the molecule (relative to mature HSA itself) (if present). Similarly, up to ten, but preferably only one or two, amino acids may be added, again in the 100 to 369 portion for preference (if present). The term "physiologically functional equivalents" also encompasses larger molecules comprising the said sequence plus a further sequence at the N-terminal (for example, pro-HSA, pre-pro-HSA and met-HSA).

Clearly, the said "another polypeptide" in the fusion compounds of the invention cannot be the remaining portion of HSA, since otherwise the whole polypeptide would be HSA, which would not then be a "fusion polypeptide".

Even when the HSA-like portion is not the said 1-n portion of HSA, it is preferred for the non-HSA portion to be one of the said (a) to (h) entities.

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The 1 to 368 portion of CD4 represents the first four disulphide-linked immunoglobulin-like domains of the human T lymphocyte CD4 protein, the gene for and amino acid sequence of which are disclosed in D. Smith et al (1987) Science 328, 1704-1707. It is used to combat HIV infections.

The sequence of human platelet-derived growth factor (PDGF) is described in Collins et al (1985) Nature 316, 748-750. Similarly, the sequence of transforming growth factors β (TGF- β) is described in Derynck et al (1985) Nature 316, 701-705. These growth factors are useful for wound-healing.

A cDNA sequence for the 1-261 portion of Fn was disclosed in EP-A-207 751 (obtained from plasmid pFH6 with endonuclease \underline{PvuII}). This portion binds fibrin and can be used to direct fused compounds to blood clots.

A cDNA sequence for the 278-578 portion of Fn, which contains a collagen-binding domain, was disclosed by R.J. Owens and F.E. Baralle in 1986 E.M.B.O.J. <u>5</u>, 2825-2830. This portion will bind to platelets.

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The 1-272 portion of von Willebrand's Factor binds and stabilises factor VIII. The sequence is given in Bontham et al, Nucl. Acids Res. 14, 7125-7127.

Variants of alpha-1-antitrypsin include those disclosed by Rosenburg et al (1984) Nature 312, 77-80. In particular, the present invention includes the Pittsburgh variant (Met³⁵⁸ is mutated to Arg) and the variant where Pro³⁵⁷ and Met³⁵⁸ are mutated to alanine and arginine respectively. These compounds are useful in the treatment of septic shock and lung disorders.

Variants of the non-HSA portion of the polypeptides of the invention include variations as discussed above in relation to the HSA portion, including those with conservative amino acid substitutions, and also homologues from other species.

The fusion polypeptides of the invention may have N-terminal amino acids which extend beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA. For example, if the HSA-like portion corresponds to an N-terminal portion of mature HSA, then pre-, pro-, or pre-pro sequences may be added thereto, for example the yeast alpha-factor leader sequence. The fused leader portions of WO 90/01063 may be used. The polypeptide which is

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fused to the HSA portion may be a naturally-occurring polypeptide, a fragment thereof or a novel polypeptide, including a fusion polypeptide. For example, in Example 3 below, a fragment of fibronectin is fused to the HSA portion via a 4 amino acid linker.

It has been found that the amino terminal portion of the HSA molecule is so structured as to favour particularly efficient translocation and export of the fusion compounds of the invention in eukaryotic cells.

A second aspect of the invention provides a transformed host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide as described above. By "so arranged", we mean, for example, that the nucleotide sequence is in correct reading frame with an appropriate RNA polymerase binding site and translation start sequence and is under the control of a suitable promoter. The promoter may be homologous with or heterologous to the host. Downstream (3') regulatory sequences may be included if desired, as is known. The host is preferably yeast (for example Saccharomyces spp., e.g. S. cerevisiae; Kluyveromyces spp., e.g. K. lactis; Pichia spp.; or Schizosaccharomyces spp., e.g. S. pombe) but may be any

other suitable host such as <u>E. coli</u>, <u>B. subtilis</u>, <u>Aspergillus</u> spp., mammalian cells, plant cells or insect cells.

A third aspect of the invention provides a process for preparing a fusion polypeptide according to the first aspect of the invention by cultivation of a transformed host according to the second aspect of the invention, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.

A fourth aspect of the invention provides therapeutic methods of treatment of the human or other animal body comprising administration of such a fusion polypeptide.

In the methods of the invention we are particularly concerned to improve the efficiency of secretion of useful therapeutic human proteins from yeast and have conceived the idea of fusing to amino-terminal portions of HSA those proteins which may ordinarily be only inefficiently secreted. One such protein is a potentially valuable wound-healing polypeptide representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin (referred to herein as Fn 585-1578). As we have described in a separate application (filed simultaneously herewith) this molecule contains cell spreading, chemotactic and chemokinetic activities

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useful in healing wounds. The fusion polypeptides of the present invention wherein the C-terminal portion is Fn 585-1578 can be used for wound healing applications biosynthesised, especially where the hybrid human protein However, the portion will be topically applied. representing amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin can if desired be recovered from the fusion protein by preceding the first amino acid of the fibronectin portion by amino acids comprising a factor X cleavage site. After isolation of the fusion protein from culture supernatant, the desired molecule is released by factor X cleavage and purified by suitable chromatography (e.g. ion-exchange chromatography). Other sites providing for enzymatic or chemical cleavage can be provided, either by appropriate juxtaposition of the N-terminal and C-terminal portions or by the insertion therebetween of an appropriate linker.

At least some of the fusion polypeptides of the invention, especially those including the said CD4 and vWF fragments, PDGF and α_1AT , also have an increased half-life in the blood and therefore have advantages and therapeutic utilities themselves, namely the therapeutic utility of the non-HSA portion of the molecule. In the case of α_1AT and others, the compound will normally be administered as

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a one-off dose or only a few doses over a short period, rather than over a long period, and therefore the compounds are less likely to cause an immune response.

EXAMPLES : SUMMARY

Standard recombinant DNA procedures were as described by Maniatis et al (1982 and recent 2nd edition) unless otherwise stated. Construction and analysis of phage M13 recombinant clones was as described by Messing (1983) and Sanger et al (1977).

DNA sequences encoding portions of human serum albumin used in the construction of the following molecules are derived from the plasmids mHOB12 and pDBD2 (EP-A-322 094, Delta Biotechnology Ltd, relevant portions of which are reproduced below) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. DNA sequences encoding portions of human fibronectin are derived from the plasmid pFHDEL1, or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Plasmid pFHDEL1, which contains the complete human cDNA encoding plasma fibronectin, was obtained by ligation of DNA derived from plasmids pFH6, 16, 54, 154 and 1 (EP-A-207 751; Delta Biotechnology Ltd).

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This DNA represents an mRNA variant which does not contain the 'ED' sequence and had an 89-amino acid variant of the III-CS region (R.J. Owens, A.R. Kornblihtt and F.E. Baralle (1986) Oxford Surveys on Eukaryotic Genes 3 141-160). The map of this vector is disclosed in Fig. 11 and the protein sequence of the mature polypeptide produced by expression of this cDNA is shown in Fig. 5.

Oligonucleotides were synthesised on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesiser according to the manufacturer's recommendations (Applied Biosystems, Warrington, Cheshire, UK).

An expression vector was constructed in which DNA encoding the HSA secretion signal and mature HSA up to and including the 387th amino acid, leucine, fused in frame to DNA encoding a segment of human fibronectin representing amino acids 585 to 1578 inclusive, was placed downstream of EP-A-258 hybrid promoter Biotechnology), which is a highly efficient galactoseinducible promoter functional in Saccharomyces cerevisiae. The codon for the 1578th amino acid of human fibronectin was directly followed by a stop codon (TAA) and then the S. cerevisiae phosphoglycerate (PGK) kinase transcription terminator. This vector was then introduced into S. cerevisiae by transformation, wherein it directed the expression and secretion from the cells of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 387 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

In a second example a similar vector is constructed so as to enable secretion by <u>S. cerevisiae</u> of a hybrid molecule representing the N-terminal 195 amino acids of HSA C-terminally fused to amino acids 585 to 1578 of human fibronectin.

Aspects of the present invention will now be described by way of example and with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 (on two sheets) depicts the amino acid sequence currently thought to be the most representative of natural HSA, with (boxed) the alternative C-termini of HSA(1-n);

Figure 2 (on two sheets) depicts the DNA sequence coding for mature HSA, wherein the sequence included in Linker 3 is underlined;

Figure 3 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of mHOB16;

Figure 4 illustrates, diagrammatically, the construction of pHOB31;

Figure 5 (on 6 sheets) illustrates the mature protein sequence encoded by the Fn plasmid pFHDEL1;

Figure 6 illustrates Linker 5, showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides;

Figure 7 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF2;

Figure 8 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF5;

Figure 9 shows schematically the construction of plasmid pDBDF9;

Figure 10 shows schematically the construction of plasmid DBDF12, using plasmid pFHDEL1; and

Figure 11 shows a map of plasmid pFHDEL1.

EXAMPLE 1 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

The following is an account of a preparation of plasmids comprising sequences encoding a portion of HSA, as is disclosed in EP-A-322 094.

The human serum albumin coding sequence used in the construction of the following molecules is derived from the plasmid Ml3mpl9.7 (EP-A-201 239, Delta Biotech- nology Ltd.) or by synthesis of oligonucleotides equivalent to parts of this sequence. Oligonucleotides were synthesised using phosphoramidite chemistry on an Applied Biosystems 380B oligonucleotide synthesizer according to the manufacturer's recommendations (AB Inc., Warrington, Cheshire, England).

An oligonucleotide was synthesised (Linker A) which represented a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Figure 2) from the PstI site (1235-1240, Figure 2) to the codon for valine 381 wherein that codon was changed from GTG to GTC:

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Linker 1 E С ¥ P H D CCT CAT GAA TGC TAT 5′ GAT GTA CTT ACG ATA 3' ACGT CTA GGA 1247 E F K D **V** . F K Α GTG TTC GAT GAA TTT AAA GCC AAA CTA CTT AAA TTTCAC AAG CGG TTT 1267 L P CTT · GTC 3′

5′

GGA

CAG

Linker 1 was ligated into the vector M13mp19 (Norrander et al, 1983) which had been digested with PstI and HincII and the ligation mixture was used to transfect E.colistrain XL1-Blue (Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Recombinant clones were identified by their failure to evolve a blue colour on medium containing the chromogenic indicator X-gal (5-bromo-4-chloro-3-indolyl-β-D-galactoside) in the present of IPTG (isopropylthio-β-galactoside). DNA sequence analysis of template DNA prepared from bacteriophage particles of recombinant clones identified a molecule with the required DNA sequence, designated mHOB12 (Figure 3).

M13mpl9.7 consists of the coding region of mature HSA in M13mpl9 (Norrander et al, 1983) such that the codon for the first amino acid of HSA, GAT, overlaps a unique XhoI site thus:

Asp Ala

- 5' CTCGAGATGCA 3'
- 3' GAGCTCTACGT 5'

<u>Xho</u>I

(EP-A-210 239). M13mpl9.7 was digested with XhoI and made flush-ended by S1-nuclease treatment and was then ligated with the following oligonucleotide (Linker 2):

Linker 2

5' T C T T T T A T C C A A G C T T G G A T A A A A G A 3'
3' A G A A A A T A G G T T C G A A C C T A T T T C T 5'

<u>Hin</u>dIII

The ligation mix was then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue and template DNA was prepared from several plaques and then analysed by DNA sequencing to identify a clone, pDBD1 (Figure 4), with the correct sequence.

A 1.1 kb HindIII to PstI fragment representing the 5' end of the HSA coding region and one half of the inserted oligonucleotide linker was isolated from pDBD1 by agarose gel electrophoresis. This fragment was then ligated with double stranded mHOB12 previously digested with HindIII and PstI and the ligation mix was then used to transfect Single stranded template DNA was E.coli XL1-Blue. prepared from mature bacteriophage particles of several The DNA was made double stranded in vitro by extension from annealed sequencing primer with the Klenow fragment of DNA polymerase I in the presence of Restriction enzyme deoxynucleoside triphosphates. analysis of this DNA permitted the identification of a clone with the correct configuration, mHOB15 (Figure 4).

The following oligonucleotide (Linker 3) represents from the codon for the 382nd amino acid of mature HSA (glutamate, GAA) to the codon for lysine 389 which is followed by a stop codon (TAA) and a <u>HindIII</u> site and then a <u>Bam</u>HI cohesive end:

Linker 3

- E E P Q N L I K J
- 5' GAA GAG CCT CAG AAT TTA ATC AAA TAA GCTTG 3
- 3' CTT CTC GGA GTC TTA AAT TAG TTT ATT CGAACCTAG 5'

This was ligated into double stranded mHOB15, previously digested with <u>HincII</u> and <u>BamHI</u>. After ligation, the DNA was digested with <u>HincII</u> to destroy all non-recombinant molecules and then used to transfect <u>E.coli</u> XL1-Blue. Single stranded DNA was prepared from bacteriophage particles of a number of clones and subjected to DNA sequence analysis. One clone having the correct DNA sequence was designated mHOB16 (Figure 4).

A molecule in which the mature HSA coding region was fused to the HSA secretion signal was created by insertion of Linker 4 into <u>BamHI</u> and <a href="mailto:XhoI digested Ml3mpl9.7 to form pDBD2 (Figure 4).

Linker 4

		M	K	W	v		S	F
5′ G	ATCC	ATG	AAG	TGG	GT	A	AGC	TTT
	G	TAC	TTC	ACC	CA	T	TCG	AAA
		-		•				
I	s		L ,	L	F	L	F	s
ATT	TC	С	CTT	CTT	TTT	CTC	TTT	AGC
TAA	AG	G	GAA	GAA	AAA	GAG	AAA	TCG

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F R G V Y S Α S AGG GGT GTG TTT TCC GCT TAT TCG TCC CCA CAC AAA AGG CGA ATA AGC

R R CG 3'

In this linker the codon for the fourth amino acid after the initial methionine, ACC for threonine in the HSA prepro leader sequence (Lawn et al, 1981), has been changed to AGC for serine to create a <u>HindIII</u> site.

A sequence of synthetic DNA representing a part of the known HSA coding sequence (Lawn et al., 1981) (amino acids 382 to 387, Fig. 2), fused to part of the known fibronectin coding sequence (Kornblihtt et al., 1985) (amino acids 585 to 640, Fig. 2), was prepared by synthesising six oligonucleotides (Linker 5, Fig. 6). The oligonucleotides 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 8 were phosphorylated using T4 polynucleotide kinase and then the oligonucleotides were annealed under standard conditions in pairs, i.e. 1+8, 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5. The annealed oligonucleotides were then mixed together and ligated with mHOB12 which had previously been digested with the restriction enzymes HincII and EcoRI. The ligation

(Stratagene Cloning Systems, San Diego, CA). Single stranded template DNA was then prepared from mature bacteriophage particles derived from several independent plaques and then was analysed by DNA sequencing. A clone in which a linker of the expected sequence had been correctly inserted into the vector was designated pDBDF1 (Fig. 7). This plasmid was then digested with PstI and EcoRI and the approx. 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb BamHI-PstI fragment of pDBD2 (Fig. 7) and BamHI + EcoRI digested pUC19 (Yanisch-Perron, et al., 1985) to form pDBDF2 (Fig. 7).

A plasmid containing a DNA sequence encoding full length human fibronectin, pFHDEL1, was digested with EcoRI and XhoI and a 0.77kb EcoRI-XhoI fragment (Fig. 8) was isolated and then ligated with EcoRI and SalI digested M13 mp18 (Norrander et al., 1983) to form pDBDF3 (Fig. 8).

The following oligonucleotide linker (Linker 6) was synthesised, representing from the PstI site at 4784-4791 of the fibronectin sequence of EP-A-207 751 to the codon for tyrosine 1578 (Fig. 5) which is followed by a stop codon (TAA), a HindIII site and then a BamHI cohesive end:

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Linker 6

Q P T V E Y Stop

CAG CCC ACA GTG GAG TAT TAA GCTTG

GTC GGG TGT CAC CTC ATA ATT CGAACCTAG

This linker was then ligated with PstI and HindIII digested pDBDF3 to form pDBDF4 (Fig. 8). The following DNA fragments were then ligated together with BqlII digested pKV50 (EP-A-258 067) as shown in Fig. 8: 0.68kb EcoRI-BamHI fragment of pDBDF4, 1.5kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.2kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1. The resultant plasmid pDBDF5 (Fig. 8) includes promoter of EP-A-258 067 to direct the expression of the HSA secretion signal fused to DNA encoding amino acids 1-387 of mature HSA, in turn fused directly and in frame acids 585-1578 of human with DNA encoding amino fibronectin, after which translation would terminate at This is then followed by the the stop codon TAA. S.cerevisiae PGK gene transcription terminator. The

plasmid also contains sequences which permit selection and maintenance in <u>Escherichia coli</u> and <u>S.cerevisiae</u> (EP-A-258 067).

This plasmid was introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B (<u>leu2-3 leu2-112 ura3-52 trp1-289 his3- 1</u>) by standard procedures (Beggs, 1978). Transformants were subsequently analysed and found to produce the HSA-fibronectin fusion protein.

EXAMPLE 2 : HSA 1-195 FUSED TO Fn 585-1578

In this second example the first domain of human serum albumin (amino acids 1-195) is fused to amino acids 585-1578 of human fibronectin.

The plasmid pDBD2 was digested with <u>BamHI</u> and <u>BqlII</u> and the 0.79kb fragment was purified and then ligated with <u>BamHI</u>-digested M13mp19 to form pDBDF6 (Fig. 6). The following oligonucleotide:

5'-C C A A A G C T C G A G G A A C T T C G-3'

was used as a mutagenic primer to create a XhoI site in pDBDF6 by in vitro mutagenesis using a kit supplied by Amersham International PLC. This site was created by

changing base number 696 of HSA from a T to a G (Fig. 2). The plasmid thus formed was designated pDBDF7 (Fig. 9). The following linker was then synthesised to represent from this newly created XhoI site to the codon for lysine 195 of HSA (AAA) and then from the codon for isoleucine 585 of fibronectin to the ends of oligonucleotides 1 and 8 shown in Fig. 6.

Linker 7

D E L R D E G K A S. S A K

TC GAT GAA CTT CGG GAT GAA GGG AAG GCT TCG TCT GCC AAA

A CTT GAA GCC CTA CTT CCC TTC CGA AGC AGA CGG TTT

I T E T P S Q P N S H

ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG AGT CAG C

TAG TGA CTC TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was ligated with the annealed oligonucleotides shown in Fig. 3, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 together with XhoI and EcoRI digested pDBDF7 to form pDBDF8 (Fig. 9). Note that in order to recreate the original HSA DNA sequence, and hence amino acid sequence, insertion of linker 7 and the other oligonucleotides into pDBDF7 does not recreate the XhoI site.

The 0.83kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF8 was purified and then was ligated with the 0.68kb EcoRI-BamHI fragment of pDBDF2 and the 2.22kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1 into BglII-digested pKV50 to form pDBDF9 (Fig. 9). This plasmid is similar to pDBDF5 except that it specifies only residues 1-195 of HSA rather than 1-387 as in pDBDF5.

When introduced into <u>S.cerevisiae</u> S150-2B as above, the plasmid directed the expression and secretion of a hybrid molecule composed of residues 1-195 of HSA fused to residues 585-1578 of fibronectin.

EXAMPLE 3 : HSA 1-387 FUSED TO Pn 585-1578, AS CLEAVABLE MOLECULE

In order to facilitate production of large amounts of residues 585-1578 of fibronectin, a construct was made in which DNA encoding residues 1-387 of HSA was separated from DNA encoding residues 585-1578 of fibronectin by the sequence

I E G R
ATT GAA GGT AGA
TAA CTT CCA TCT

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which specifies the cleavage recognition site for the blood clotting Factor X. Consequently the purified secreted product can be treated with Factor X and then the fibronectin part of the molecule can be separated from the HSA part.

To do this two oligonucleotides were synthesised and then annealed to form Linker 8.

Linker 8

Ε Q N Ε ATT CAG ART TTA GAA GAG CCT TAA CTT CCA ATTTAA GGA GTC CTT CTC

P S Q P Ε T R I T AGT CAG ATC ACT GAG ACT CCG TGA GGC TCA GTC GGG CTC TGA TCT TAG

N S H

TTG AGG GTG G

This linker was then ligated with the annealed oligonucleotides shown in Fig. 6, i.e. 2+7, 3+6 and 4+5 into HincII and <a href="https://hinter.com/HincII and https://hinter.com/HincII and https://hinter.com/HincII and https://hinter.com/HincII and <a href="https://hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/Hinter.com/

(Fig. 7). The plasmid was then digested with PstI and EcoRI and the roughly 0.24kb fragment was purified and then ligated with the 1.29kb BamHI-PstI fragment of pDBD2 and BamHI and EcoRI digested pUC19 to form pDBDF11 (Fig. 10).

The 1.5kb BamHI-StuI fragment of pDBDF11 was then ligated with the 0.68kb EcoRI-BamH1 fragment of pDBDF4 and the 2.22kb StuI-EcoRI fragment of pFHDEL1 into BglII-digested pKV50 to form pDBDF12 (Fig. 10). This plasmid was then introduced into S.cerevisiae S150-2B. The purified secreted fusion protein was treated with Factor X to liberate the fibronectin fragment representing residues 585-1578 of the native molecule.

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CLAIMS

1. A fusion polypeptide comprising, as at least part of the N-terminal portion thereof, an N-terminal portion of HSA or a variant thereof and, as at least part of the C-terminal portion thereof, another polypeptide except that, when the said N-terminal portion of HSA is the 1-n portion where n is 369 to 419 or a variant thereof then the said polypeptide is (a) the 585 to 1578 portion of human fibronectin or a variant thereof, (b) the 1 to 368 portion of CD4 or a variant thereof, (c) platelet derived growth factor or a variant thereof, (d) transforming growth factor β or a variant thereof, (e) the 1-261 portion of mature human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof, (f) human plasma 278-578 portion of mature fibronectin or a variant thereof, (g) the 1-272 portion of mature human von Willebrand's Factor or a variant thereof, or (h) alpha-1-antitrypsin or a variant thereof.

- 2. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 additionally comprising at least one N-terminal amino acid extending beyond the portion corresponding to the N-terminal portion of HSA.
- 3. A fusion polypeptide according to Claim 1 or 2 wherein there is a cleavable region at the junction of the said N-terminal or C-terminal portions.
- 4. A fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the said C-terminal portion is the 585 to 1578 portion of human plasma fibronectin or a variant thereof.
- 5. A transformed or transfected host having a nucleotide sequence so arranged as to express a fusion polypeptide according to any one of the preceding claims.
- 6. A process for preparing a fusion polypeptide by cultivation of a host according to Claim 5, followed by separation of the fusion polypeptide in a useful form.
- 7. A fusion polypeptide according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 for use in therapy.

FIGURE 1

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FIGURE 2 DNA sequence coding for mature HSA

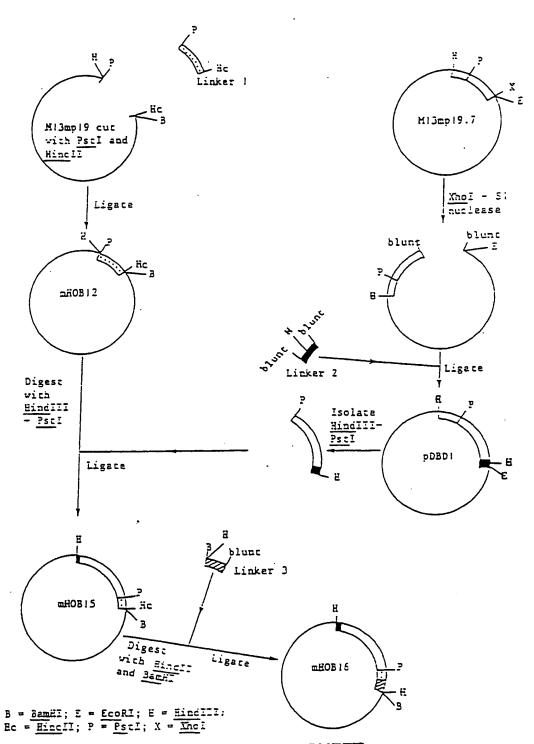
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FIGURE 2 Cont. 1050 1060 1070 1080 1090 1100 1:20 GAGACTTGCCAAGACATATGAAAACCACTCTAGAGAAGTGCTGTGCCGCTGCAGATCCTCATGAATGCTATGCCAAAAGTGT R L A K T Y E T T L E K C C A A A D P H E C Y A K V 1140 1150 1160 1170 1180 ::90 TEGATGAATTTAAACETETTGTGGAAGAGCETCAGAATTTAATCAAACAAAACTGTGAGCTTTTTGAGCAGCTTGGAGAG F D E F K P L V E E P Q N I I N Q N C E L F E C L G E 1220 1230 1240 1250 1260 1270 1210 1250 TACAAATTCCAGAATGCGCTATTAGTTCGTTACACCAAGAAAGTACCCCAAGTGTCAACTCCAACTCTTGTAGAGGTCTC Y K F Q N A L L V R Y T K K V P Q V S T P T L V E V S 1330 1340 1350 1300 1310 1320 RNLGKVG5 KCCK RPE AKRMPC AE DYL 1430 1380 1390 1400 1410 1420 CCGTGGTCCTGAACCAGTTATGTGTGTGCATGAGAAAACGCCAGTAAGTGACAGAGTCACAAAAT5CTGCACAGAGTCC S V V L N Q L C V L H E K T F V S D R V T K C C T E S 1460 1470 1480 1490 1500 15.0 TTGGTGAACAGGCGACCATGCTTTTCAGCTCTGGAAGTCGATGAAACATACGTTCCCAAAGAGTTTAATGCTGAAACATT LVNRRPCFSALEVDETYVPKEFNAETF 1540 1550 1560 1570 T F H A D I C T L S E K E R Q I K K Q T A L V E L V 1620 1630 1640 1650 1660 1670 1680 AACACAGCCCAAGGCAACAAAAGAGCAACTGAAAGCTGTTATGGATGATTTCGCAGCTTTTTGTAGAGAAGTGCTGCAAGA K H K P K A T K E Q L K A V M D D F A A F V E K C C K 1700 1710 1690 1720 1730 1740 1750 GCTGACGATAAGGAGACCTGCTTTGCCGAGGAGGAGGGTAAAAACTTGTTGCTGCAAGTCAAGCTGCCTTAGGCTTATAACA ADDKETCFAFEGKKLVAASQAALGL

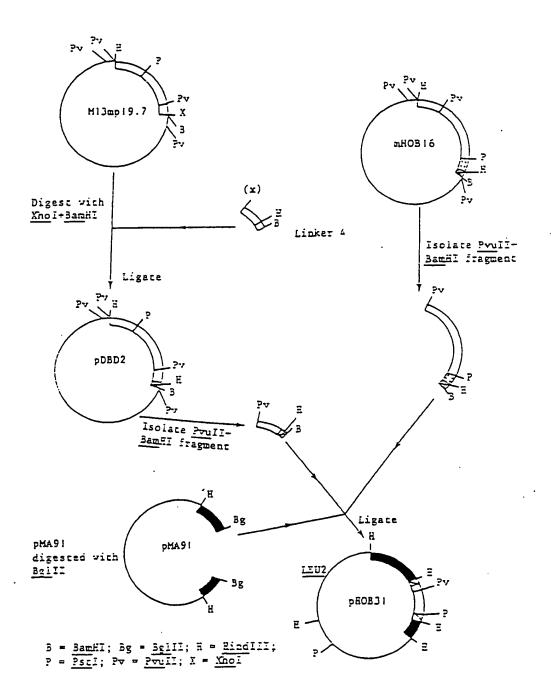
1770 1780 TCTACATTTAAAAGCATCTCAG

FIGURE 3 Construction of mROBI6



SUBSTITUTE SHEET

FIGURE 1 Construction of pBOB31



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Fig. 5A

260 A 60 280 Asp 340 Phe Phe 0 180 180 <u>გუ</u> 300 Wet 200 Cys 220 Asn A 50 <u>6</u> Lys Lys Asp Trp Lys Cys Agn Leu Ala 죥 Arg Arg 늗 투 Ser Asp Arg 290 Gin Trp Leu Lys Thr Gin Giy Asn Lys Gin Gin Thr GIn Thr Tyr Lys 11e Arg Ξ Thr Arg Asn È Val <u>∕</u> ζ Asp His Trp Met S O Gly ζŞ 누 Asp 뵨 ر م 투 Asn Asn Ala <u>√</u> Thr Asp HIS Thr Val Leu Val <u>√</u> G V Gly HIS Asn Gly His Leu Trp Cys Ser Arg Ser Phe Ser פוני Cys Thr Cys 11e Gly Tyr Met Leu Glu Cys Trp Ser 본 Cys Gin Glu Thr Ala Val Gin Gly Ϋ́ P Je 잣 Gln ςζs Ţŗ 본 G S Phe Pro Phe Leu Met Lys Trp Pro Phe Thr Cys Asp Thr Gly Pro Pro Pro Pro Tyr Ala Glu Lys Gly Arg Gly Asn Thr trp GIU Lys Pro Tyr Glu Gly Gly Arg Ile Thr Asn Set Ile Gly Len Asn Gly Cys. HIS G Y Asp G S I le 투 370 Cys 330 HIS 350 Asp <u>6₽</u> 8₹ 210 Arg 870 Gin 55 59 59 330 Fei 85 25 133 2550 Ser 130 Pro HIS GIU. Thr GIY 전 E E Ą Q Ely Ala Leu Cys Ser Gin Pro Gin Pro His Pro Glu Pro Cys Ile Ala Asn Arg Cys Lys Ser Cys Ile Cys Gly Met <u>s</u> Phe Asp Lys Glu Thr Pro Lys. Asp Ser Met Ile Ser Tyr Arg (Arg Gly Ė Se. Asn Gly Gly (0 <u>8</u> G S Ϋ́ Ė G S 片 Trp Thr <u>D</u> ב ב Se Asn. Gly SS <u>√</u>a Thr Arg Asn Leu Leu Gin GIn Asp GIn Lys Cys Leu Gly Cys Leu Gly 부 Ash שני Va. ۲ Arg GIC TR Ě Ser Val Cys Thr GIn Asp Asn Ser Asn Ser Cys Trp Arg GIY Ty. Š Ţ 투 Ş Thr 투 Ą Ser <u>s</u> Ser Asp His Ely Ş oly Y <u>8</u> 부 Asn Asp Arg Asn Arg Asp Ser Arg

-ig. 5B

700 118 760 737 780 700 700 <u>87</u> 620 Vai 649 200 50 700 50 700 600 Asn 999 Vai Phe Arg 징 <u>0</u> פת 730 Asp Glu Pro Gln Tyr Leu Asp Leu Pro Ser Thr Ala Pro Ile Gin Trp <u>Gly</u> Asn Val Ala G J Ser 투 Arg 첫 文 HIS Asn Gly ĽŚ Val Ë Asp 찻 Ser Asn Asp Gly S Phe Pro Met Ala Ala HIS Glu Glu Ila Gly Ser . S Lys Val ₩ V Ser Gln Thr Thr Leu Ser Asn Ser Ş Ě 챳 Leu Pro Ely Arg Lys Tyr Ile Pro 투 Ser ķ Ser 큠 Ser Ala Ser Asp Thr Val Çys Phe Gly Asn Val Glu Thr Gly Ser <u>n</u> <u>5</u> Fro 돮 Arg Ser Ser ķ ۷ **Trp** 7, Ν Ile Gln Pro Ser 770 Leu IIe Leu Ser Thr Asp Asp Thr Asp Cys 잣 Asn Ser GIn Pro Asn Ser ξ Ser Arg BIO Tyr Arg Ile Val Ę 녿 Ala Thr Trp Arg G J Asn Cys Thr 11e Thr Asp Gln Cys Gln Asp Ser Ala Asn Ser 610 Jyr 11e Leu 630 . Gly His Leu Ile Ser Arg 드 570 Pro Leu Gin Ν 790 val ۷a Asp 투 Asp Gίγ 660 650 Fen 470 Asn 550 Ecu 530 840 870 Ser \$2 52 490 ASP G J GIU Leu Asn Leu Pro Glu Trp Asn Ile Pro Asp Leu Ser Pro Asp Pro Thr Val Asp Ĺys Glu Thr Thr Pro Phe Ser Pro Phe lle (ה Pro 5 <u>n</u> 투 Glu Leu Ser Glu Glu Gly Şα. G J His Met tie Val Ala Pro Ile Thr Glu Gln Arg Trp Lys Glu Ale Thr 11e Set Thr Thr Val Ser G Y Arg <u>8</u> 찻 Trp HIS Cys Thr Glu Thr Glu Gly II e ςλs ςς. Lys Phe <u>6</u> Glu Lys 돳 Trp Lys Cys Asp Pro Val Gin Pro Ser His Thr Arg Phe Asp Phe Glu Asp Gly Phe Val Asp GIn ጟ 丰 Met Lys Arg His Glu Glu . 15 . all . S **₹** ยู่ <u>«</u> Ser ν Pro GIr Arg Ser Š Val Phe Ą <u>a</u> Ala Pro Ser Ţ Ser 본 2 Met Leu Asp 11e Pro Gly 민 Arg Ser Pro Asp Asn Met <u>۵</u> Arg ē

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1240 Pro Pro Thr 980 Ser Pro Ser <u>₹</u> S . چک Ala. <u>\$</u> 후 Lys Ser Ϋ́ Ş Pro 부 Thr Asp 5 투 Asp Gln Arg Pro Glu Tyr Asn Lys Ala Ile Leu Ser Thr Gly Ser Leu Pro Pro Ser Ŗ 부 Pro <u> 1</u> שור Pro Arg GIY <u>k</u> 丰 Gly Sar Trp Val Asn Leu His Leu Giu Ala Asn Pro Asp Arg Ala Val Va Va Val Ala Va Va Asn Ser 5 Lys ž Leu Pro Ala Ser S G Pro Ne Ty. ٦ Thr Leu Gln Gly Leu Thr Pro Gly Pro Val G S lle Val Ile Thr 11e Met Asn Leu G S Ser Ile Pro <u>k</u> Val Tyr Asn Val Gľy Ser Thr Gly Phe Ë 1090 Pro Ser Gln Gly Gly Asp 보 Ą 1130 GIn Giu Arg Asp Ala 1190 Leu Glu Glu Val Val Asn Val Arg Gin Ile 민 Glu Val Şe Val Met 1230 Asp Thr 1le Thr Thr Pro Asp Ile 뵨 Phe Thr S S Arg \se Pro G J Š 1210 Leu Glu Asn Ala 부 ζ Ala کڑ 0.5 -1110 Val Ser 0 0 0 0 0 0 990 Arg 050 V&I 890 Val 90 80 80 Ser 9 5 Asn Ser GIC Gly Phe Lys Leu Gly Val Arg Pro Gly Pro Lys Leu Asp Ala Pro Ą Ser Asp Asp 부 G^Q <u>8</u> 100 G Z Pro Gly Ser Ile Val <u>6</u> Pro ₹ Tyr Asn Thr Glu Val Thr Asn Ala Ala 부 부 ķ Pro GIN GIN GIY Asn Ile Ě Trp Glu Arg Ser Leu Ser Leu Arg Asp 늄 Ala 됩 P₇0 Phe Arg Arg 보 Asn 11e ζa. Pro Pro <u>k</u> Glu Ser Pro Lys 든 Lys Val GY D D O G Ser Ţ Asp Asn Ser Phe Thr Arg Leu Ą 잣 Ile Gin Gin Val le <u>ם</u> Ser Q J Ser Asn Gin Val Arg <u>n</u> phe Pro Phe Val 투 Asn Phe G S Asp Pro Leu Leu Arg Set Leu Arg 井 뵨 Leu 챳 Pro Gly Val Sp d Ĭ Ile. 걸 ٩ Oln (Ser Val Pro G n Ş Ą Ţ, Asp Arg Pro Asn 후 Aso Ser 든

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Trp Asp Ala Pro

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Leu Leu Ile

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1430 Pro

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Leu Glu

Asp

Arg

Ala

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1390 Pro Gly

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Thr Asn

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Ser

Gin Gin alu Tyr

Gly Ė Ţ

1410 Pro Leu Leu Ile

Ser Val ħ

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Pro Ser

<u>8</u>

Arg Glu Asp Arg

Arg

GIY

Glu HIS

Pro 투 Ā

되 Ser Asn Po

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1450 Ile Thr

Arg

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1320 Thr

Gin Val

Met

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11e Asp Lys Pro Ser

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Tyr Arg Thr

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1540 617 1560 617 פֿ Ala 보 AB Ala Leu Lys Asp Thr Leu Thir Šę Lys Ė Vai <u>k</u> Set ۷a Pro Lys Le₂ ķ <u>Val</u> olo. 부 Ser Ser Pro Thr Lys Thr Ę Š È Gin Pro Leu Val Gin Pro Thr Val Thr Pro Thr Arg Val Ser 1530 | Lys Trp Leu Pro Ser S | 1550 | Gly Pro Gly Pro Thr L Ser ۷a Ser Gln Arg Pro Asp ۲ٍ Vα 1570 Gly Leu <u>u</u>o ጟ Val 1630 1 Leu Thr Gly 1650 Asn Leu Ala F 1610 Asp Leu Lys Phe Thr 250 Ser 290 <u>S</u> Pro Lys Asn Glu Met Thr Ile Glu Ser Val ζ פ Pro Asn Val Gin Leu G J Ser 11e Glu Ile Pro Ser 7, ζ 뵨 Gln Asn Lys Ė 보 Asp Asn Pro Ala Ţ Met 흗 Ala Pro בוּס פה Pro <u>8</u> Val Pro Leu Met Ą Asp Τ̈́ ዾ፟ <u>ه</u> Š Trp Asp Pro

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Fig. 5E

1860 Gln Lys 1880 Leu Pro 2100 Ser Arg Trp Cys His Asp Asn Gly 2020 Glu Ala Leu Pro Asn Ser Leu Leu Val !e HIS 먑 . ∃e Thr Ser <u>8</u> Tyr Lys 片 Ser 부 Trp Arg Thr Lys Thr Glu Thr Tyr Glu Lys Pro Gin Arg Thr Ser Pro Pro Asn Val Asn Ser Pro Arg Arg GIn Lys Ę Ą 투 Lys Asn Asn Gin Leu Val Thr Glu Tyr 11e Phe Arg <u>8</u> Pro Gly Pro Gly Tyr Asn Ile Ile Val Asp Val Ile Asp Glu Ala Ė <u>8</u> Gly 井 Lys Leu]e Leu Leu Pro 뵨 Val Τyr Pro G S Leu Gin Phe Arg Val Lys 부 کر ک Ţ Se Phe Ala 든 50 井 Pro Ser Š Aso Glu Leu Pro Ser Glu His Phe Gin Aso Thr GIn Thr Pro Ę <u>1</u> ۷ø Ile Ile Arg ζa G S n L Ile Pro Gly Val Pro 井 Glu Asn Val 丰 Val Asn Gly Pro Pro Phe Glu Se 2090 Cys Asp Ser Ile Ser G Z Gly Leu Ser Ala ţ Val o G Arg Asp Ala cys S G Τζ 3 Arg 6년 건 1890 Leu 1930 11e 970 P70 1950 HIS Asp Glu Glu Pro 200 Gly 790 Phe 1950 11e 970 Thr 1730 Ala Arg Asp Asp Leu Thr Arg . Lys Ile 본 Arg Met Phe Arg 투 Gln Met Pro Ile Arg Ser Trp Ala Ala Pro Ang Thr 11e Asn Lau Arg Ala Arg Ile Olc. Asp <u>k</u> 투 후 <u>ره</u> Asp Asn Glu Tyr Arg Lys Lys D G 누 본 Va V Pro ۲ٔ۰ 든 Va. Ala ķ ¥ Ŧ Gly Gln Pro G Z 부 Glu Trp G Y D D Asp G S Thr 11e Val Ser Arg G S Gly Lew Asn Ser <u>8</u> 부 อใน H Ala GIY 두 Arg Po G J Pro Pro <u>√</u> ∑ Va Se Ala Thr Ş Ş Arg Leu Ile Asn Asp Leo 3 G L Glu Ala <u>6</u> Arg 5 ₽ Ser 늗 본 ۷eJ ᄗ <u>5</u> È <u>k</u> Pro Leo Asp Pro Asn Gin 벁 Asp סוכ Pro Pro Asp Ę <u>ק</u> Phe Ala Phe ţ Ė Leu. Leu Pro ᄗ P 0 Asp Ala Pro G S <u>/8</u> 5 ᆵ Trp פוכ Š Ş פוכ Ala Ľys Leu Leu Ser Gly Pro Ser Se Ser

Val Asn Tyr Lys I le Gly Glu Lys Trp Asp Arg ein Gly Glu Asn Gly Gln Met Met Ser 2130
Cys Thr Cys Leu Gly Asn Gly Lys Gly Glu Phe Lys Cys Asp Pro His Glu Ala Thr Cys
Tyr Asp Asp Gly Lys Thr Tyr His Val Gly Glu Gin Trp Gln Lys Glu Tyr Leu Gly Ala
2170
Ile Cys Ser Cys Thr Cys Phe Gly Gly Gin Arg Gly Trp Arg Cys Asp Asn Cys Arg Arg
Arg 2200
And Arg Gly Gly Gly Gly Gly Gln Ser Tyr Asn Gln Tyr Ser Gln
2220 His Gin Arg Thr Asn Thr Asn Val Asn Cys Pro Ile Giu Cys Phe Met Pro Leu 2230 Gin Ala Asp Arg Giu Asp Ser Arg Giu Asp Val Arg

Fig. 5F

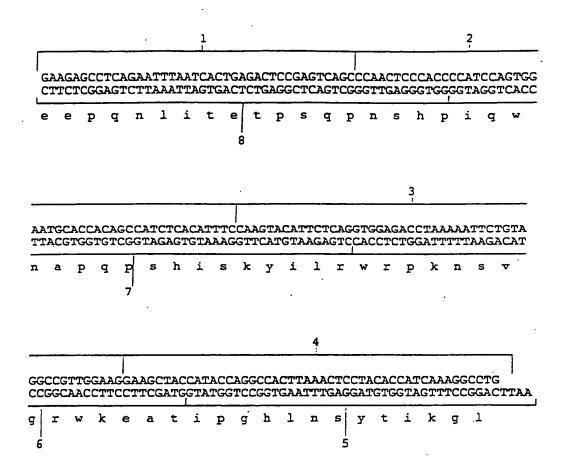


Figure 6 Linker 5 showing the eight constituent oligonucleotides

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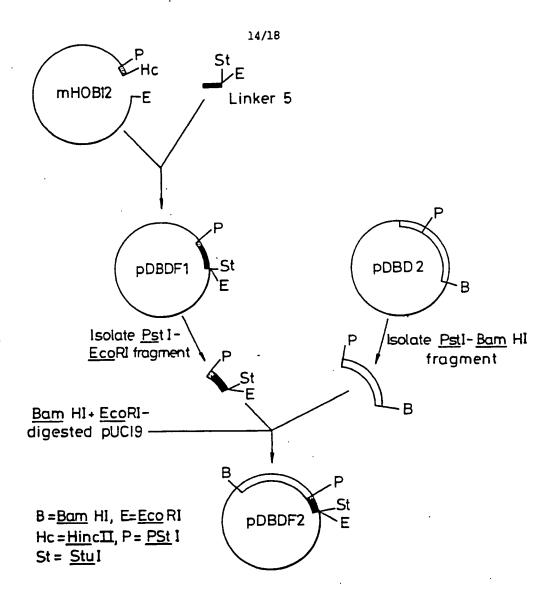


Fig. 7 Construction of pDBDF2

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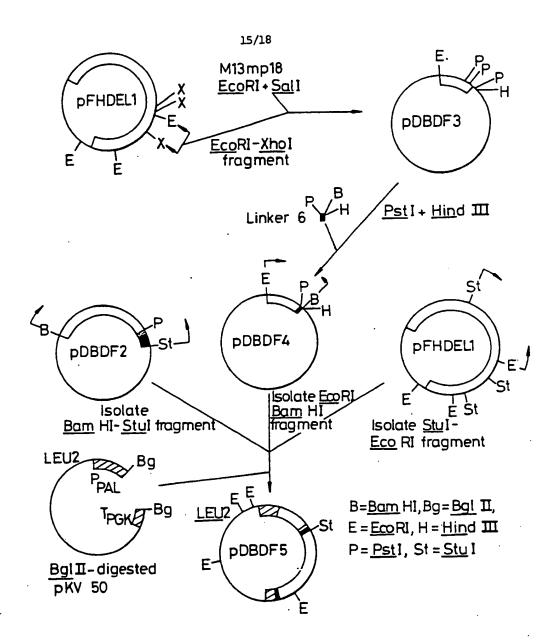


Fig. 8 Construction of pDBDF5

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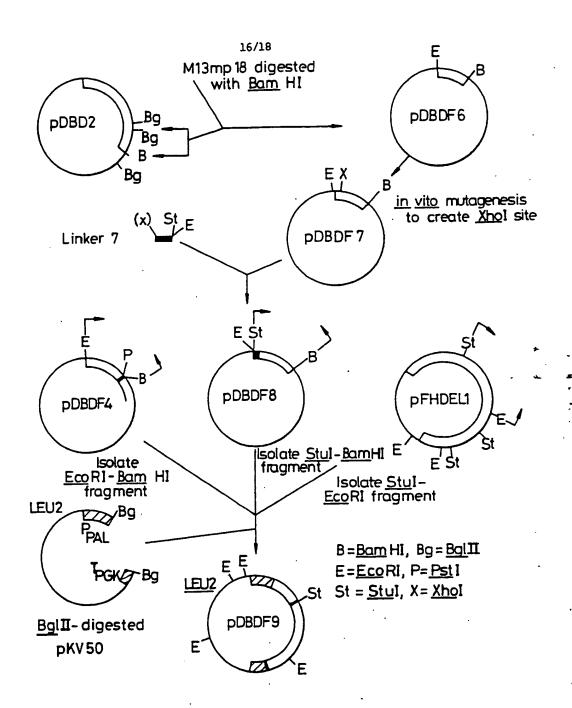


Fig. 9 Construction of pDBDF9

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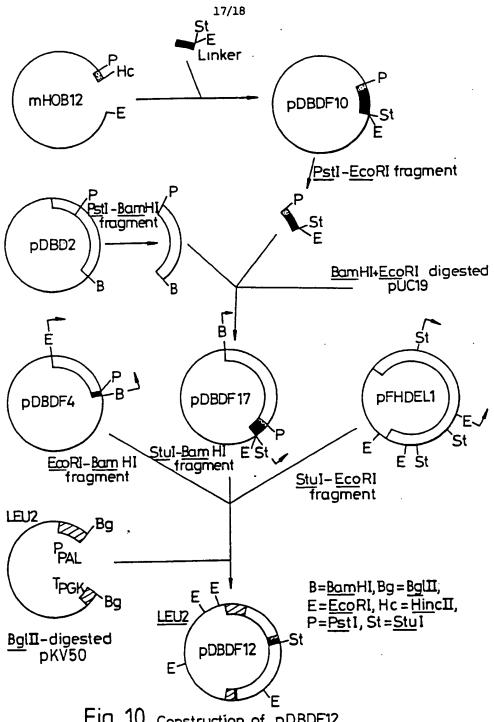


Fig. 10 Construction of pDBDF12

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Figure 11

Name:

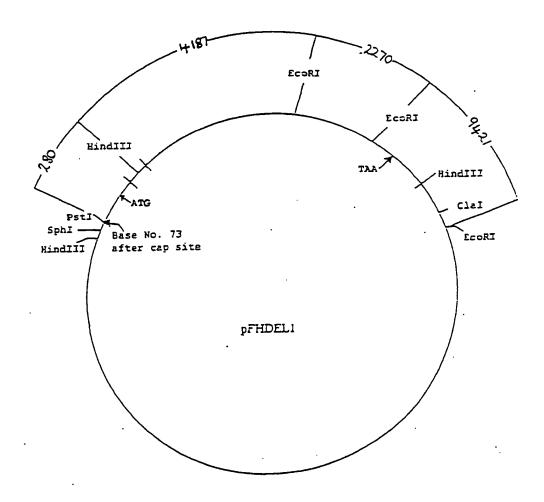
pFHDEL1

Yector:

pUC18 Amp^{fy} 2860op

Insert:

hFNcDNA - 7630bp



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No PCT/GB 90/00650

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (it several classification symbols apply, indicate all) *							
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC							
IPC ⁵ : C 12 N 15/62, C 07 K 13/00, C 12 P 21/02							
II. FIELDS SEARCHED							
Minimum Documentation Searched ?							
Classification Favor 1							
Classification Symbols							
IPC ⁵ C 12 N, C 12 P, C 07 K							
		er than Minimum Documentation has are included in the Fields Searched *					
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT							
Cetegory •	Citation of Document, " with Indication, where a	ppropriate, of the relevant passages 12	Relevant to Claim No. 13				
- 1	•						
A	EP, A, 0308381 (SKANDIG 22 March 1989	EN et al.)					
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T	EP, A, 0322094 (DELTA B	IOTECHNOLOGY LTD)	•				
1	28 June 1989						
	(cited in the applicati	on) .					
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"A" document published prior to the international filling date but later than the priority date claimed in the art. "A" document member of the same patent family							
IV. CERTIFICATION							
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	July 1990	0 9. 08. 90					
			SOTELO				
EUROPEAN PATENT OFFICE Signature of Authorities Officer M. 501							

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GB 9000650

36670 SA

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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date 22-03-89	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP-A- 0308381		SE-B- AU-A- SE-A- WO-A-	459586 2420488 8703539 8902467	17-07-89 17-04-89 15-03-89 23-03-89
EP-A- 0322094	28-06-89	AU-A-	2404688	18-05-89
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